



Congress met on Monday. We hope to be able in our next to give the organization of that body. The President's Message—the organization of Congress—and the action of that body on several subjects, are looked for with more than ordinary interest.

THE GOVERNOR'S WAR.

The last Warsaw Visitor contains a sketch of the life and adventures of John C. Edwards, and another letter from Gen. Price, in both of which the Governor is handled in rough style, and some things alluded to which are rather too dark for the public prints.

The Governor seems, however, to be perfectly in his element. He throws it back at his friends in manifold, if not decent, style.

Both seem to have exhausted the facts of their case, or the points on which they relied to sustain themselves before the public, and have fallen into a strain of personal abuse and vulgarity, which, for the sake of decency, we hope will soon be terminated.

Governor Edwards suggests through his "Herald," that an amendment be ingrafted in our Constitution prohibiting a Whig and democrat from taking contracts from the State, for any purpose, as partners!

FLORIDA ELECTION.—The Tallahassee Sentinel of the 11th ult., publishes the official returns of the Florida election for a representative from that State in Congress, which shows a majority of fifty-one votes for Mr. Cabell, the whig candidate.

The Sentinel states also that the Governor has given the certificate of election to Cabell, to which he believes him fully entitled, as well by law as having received a majority of the suffrages of the people.

SENATOR FROM GEORGIA.—The Legislature of Georgia has elected the Hon. John McPherson Barrien United States Senator for the unexpired term ending in 1847. It will be remembered that Mr. Barrien, a short time since, resigned his place in the Senate, but having consented again to serve, the Legislature reinstated him for the balance of the term.

The Palmyra Courier, of the 17th says: A man by the name of Henry Beetner, was lodged in jail in this place a few days ago, charged with having decoyed from her parents and home, a daughter of Mr. Gaines, of Shelby county. She was only about fifteen years of age. Beetner was a citizen of Hannibal—was arrested there—taken to Shelby—tried and committed for further trial. We understand that since his arrest search has been made after the young lady, but as yet no trace of her can be found.

We understand the body of the girl was found in a sink hole, in Lincoln county. Her throat had been cut, and she had been stabbed several times in the side. The circumstances as related to us are about these. Beetner had been paying attention to the young lady, and persuaded her to elope with him, and induced her to steal some five hundred dollars from her father, for which he had sold a negro. He was seen in Hannibal afterwards and asked about the girl, and denied having seen or knowing anything of her. It was known by several that he took her off, and this denial aroused suspicion, and after a long search she was found, as stated above.

If the editor of the Democrat ever conversed with the Speaker of the last House of Representatives, and the other members from this county, he must know that what we stated in our last, on the subject of the Governor's veto of the Penitentiary bill, was substantially true—and being true, the article which that was intended to correct, was therefore rendered nugatory. We have neither time nor room to hunt up the necessary facts or circumstances which led to this belief at the time, and therefore recommend him to those who were present and understood the circumstances of the case. They are much better authority than the statements of the Governor's organ.

NOMINATIONS.—The Whigs of Rhode Island have nominated Byron Dimon, Esq. as their candidate for Governor, and Isaac P. Hazard for Lieut. Governor. The Democratic whigs have nominated Charles Jackson for the former, and Jesse L. Moss for the latter office. Governor Fenner declined the nomination for Governor.

It seems to be generally conceded that Mr. Calhoun will return to the Senate of the United States—Mr. Huger retiring in his favor.

THE CONVENTION.

The subject of native Americanism has been before the Convention, on a motion to amend the 2nd Section, Article 4th, of the Constitution, which says that the Governor of the State shall be a native born citizen of the United States. Mr. Applegate moved to strike out this Section and insert that to be eligible to the office of Governor, should require a residence of ten years in the U. S. and five in the State of Missouri. An amendment to this amendment, requiring a residence in the United States of 21 years and this 9, was voted down, Ayes 45—noes 18. Various other amendments were proposed, discussed, and voted down; and after debating the subject through several days, the amendment proposed by Mr. Applegate was adopted, ayes 50—noes 15.

On Wednesday, 20th ult., Mr. Hunter, from the Committee on the Declaration of Rights, reported that part of the present constitution as it now stands, with a slight alteration in the phraseology, without altering the sense. It was read and ordered to a second reading.

Mr. Anderson, from the Committee on Boundaries, submitted a report substantially the same as that of our present constitution. Ordered to a second reading.

Mr. Jones, of N., from the same committee, reported an ordinance to the Congress of the U. S., proposing to extend the western boundary line so as to include the Neosho river; which if assented to by Congress, shall become the law of the land. It was read and ordered to a second reading.

On Thursday, 27th, Mr. C. F. Jackson, chairman of the Committee on Banks and Corporations, reported in substance as follows: Sec. 1. To prohibit in future the creation, renewal or extension of a corporation with banking privileges or discounting of paper. Sec. 2. Any corporation created for municipal purposes or otherwise, the stockholders shall hereafter be individually liable for its debts, &c. Sec. 3. Prohibits any person from issuing bills, bonds, notes, or any thing intended to circulate as money. Sec. 4. No Bank shall exist after 1st January, 1847, and directs the Legislature following the period mentioned, to wind up the present Bank of Missouri, having due regard to the interest of all concerned. The report states that the State owns \$900,000 in the Bank; \$675,000 of which belongs to the school and seminary fund; the dividends declared are only about 3 per cent; these funds it is the duty of the State to protect.

Mr. Alexander said he was one of that committee, and that they had taken him by surprise. He therefore took this opportunity to inform the Convention that he differed with the report just submitted, and he done so in order to explain any vote he might give on this question.

Mr. Brooking, as one of that committee, said he differed with the report, and he should probably at some day submit a minority report.

Mr. Broadhead submitted a minority report. It takes ground against the individual liability principle proposed to be inserted in all incorporations, and referred to the hard hearted and high handed measures that had been urged against the circulation of paper money. On the subject of incorporating State banks, the report takes the ground of leaving the subject open, and concludes with the following resolution:

Resolved, That the 8th article of our present constitution be stricken out.

The majority and minority reports were ordered to a second reading.

Mr. Hunt, from the Judiciary committee, reported that the committee could not agree upon a report—that they were equally divided upon two propositions—one was the present system of the Judiciary, and the other the *Nisi Prius* system—of constituting the circuit judges the supreme court judges.

A communication was received from the Auditor of Public Accounts, which was read and referred to the Committee on Legislative Power. The communication sets down the first item of the State debt to have been created on the 2d of February, 1837, on the same day on which the Bank charter was approved (which says the communication, an unfortunate day for Missouri) which was \$75,000; on 9th Feb. 1837, \$100,000; on 11th Feb. 1839, \$125,000; on 13th Feb. 1839, \$20,000; on 15th Feb. 1841, \$253,261. The above sums were borrowed at an interest of 6 per cent. On the 10th February, 1841, \$12,000; on 25th Feb. 1845, \$175,000, at 10 per cent. On 20th March, 1845, \$20,000; on 19th May, 1845, \$15,000.

The present amount of State debt is \$2,084,938 85 and is constituted of the following items: Bonds of the State outstanding, 957,261 00 Surplus revenue deposited with the State, 382,335 30 State School Fund, 575,667 96 Seminary Fund, 100,000 00 Interest claimed by Bank, as per quarterly report, Sept. 26, '45, 69,674 00 Making the aggregate sum of \$2,084,938 85 Of this sum \$947,931 16 is invested in Bank stock, as follows:

Table listing ownership of State property: Owned by the State in her own right (272,263 60), Common Schools (575,667 96), and State University (100,000 00).

Making the aggregate sum of \$947,931 56 Of the remainder of said debt there are bonds of the State outstanding for principal, on account of building of the Capitol, \$232,000; besides those bonds given to pay the interest on said sum.

No part of the "present debt" has been extinguished. Several issues of bonds have been cancelled, but the cancelling, so far from lessening the State debt, in almost every case, increased it.

On Friday, 28th, Mr. Pitt, from the committee on Elections, reported, that it appears from the credentials of members, that all those now claiming their seats, are entitled to the same.

The 4th article of the constitution was then taken up, and the 3d, 4th, and 5th sections, as they now stand in the constitution, were then adopted.

The 6th section, Mr. Hunt moved to amend, that the Governor, by and with the consent of the Attorney General, Auditor and Treasurer, or any two of them, shall have power to remit fines, forfeitures, and except in cases of impeachment, to grant reprieves and pardons.

He offered this section in lieu of the section reported by the committee. He thought the Executive and Judicial power should be entirely separated, and not blended as the committee propose in this particular.

Mr. Wells of Cole, took the ground that the supreme court would be the most proper persons to act with the Governor, in exercising the power proposed.

Mr. Forshey moved to strike out all after section 6, and insert, "that the Governor shall have power, after conviction to remit fines and forfeitures, and except in cases of impeachment, to grant reprieves and pardons."

Mr. Wright took ground in opposition to lodging the pardoning power with the cabinet officers of the Governor, or the supreme court. He was for lodging the power in a single hand—the chief executive officer. He was in favor of a slight alteration in this section of our present constitution—Governor shall only remit fines, forfeitures, &c., after judgment.

Mr. Wells replied, and argued at length in favor of the proposition he had assumed before—the Governor to exercise the pardoning power, with the advice and consent of the supreme court. The pardoning power should be exercised only upon proof of the guilt or innocence of the party convicted. The facts and circumstances should all be made known by proof before the pardoning power is exercised—and not upon mere representations of the friends of the party, who are interested in the acquittal of the party.

Judge Morrow was utterly opposed to connecting the Supreme Court with the pardoning power. He was opposed to all the propositions offered. He was in favor of the Governor exercising the power, with certain checks, &c.

Mr. Leslie remarked, if the gentleman from Montgomery would insert that the Governor shall exercise the power only after judgment, he would go for it; and he hoped that would meet the views of his colleague from St. Louis, and he would thus show he possessed as much loving kindness as himself.

Mr. Forshey, by consent, inserted "after conviction" after the words in his amendment "the Governor shall have power."

The vote was then taken on the rejection of Mr. Forshey's amendment, and lost. It was ordered to a second reading. On the second reading of the amendment, the question was on agreeing to it—

Mr. Jones, of Newton, called for the ayes and noes, which resulted as follows—ayes 50, noes 15.

The amendment was agreed to. On motion of Mr. Simonds, the Convention adjourned to 2 o'clock.

The evening session of Friday was consumed in debating on the subject of making the Auditor elective.

Saturday morning, Mr. Cannon, chairman of the Committee on Legislative Power, reported that the committee had made some alterations in our present constitution. They had stricken out the one county representation, and based representation on "free white male population; every four years an enumeration to be made, so as to equalize representation as near as possible; fractions in the adjoining counties to be added together until it amounts to the basis of representation sufficient to furnish a member; House not to exceed 100 members, and Senate 33; one-half of the Senators to go out of office every two years; no person shall be eligible to the office of legislator while he holds any lucrative office under the State or general government; collectors and officers who retain money collected without accounting for it, shall not be eligible to either house, ministers, &c., are excluded; postmasters and militia officers are exempted from the above restrictions; bills may originate in either House; no session of the Legislature shall last longer than 60 days; legislature shall create no debt except for the ordinary expenses of government; a proposition to

borrow money shall be submitted by the legislature to the people, if they agree to it then the legislature may create the debt; on the subject of emancipation, &c., and in regard to slaves, it is the same as the present constitution. All impeachments to be tried by the senate—a majority to govern. Treasurer of the State to be elected by the people. No county hereafter established shall contain less than 400 square miles. The general assembly to meet on the first Monday in November, instead of the third, every two years. The above contains the substance of the report. Other parts of the report are the same as the present constitution.

Mr. Acock, as one of the members of the committee, remarked he differed with the majority who made the report. He might, or he might not submit a minority report.

The report was ordered to a second reading. In the evening of Saturday, the subject of electing the Auditor was again discussed at length, and on a call of the yeas and nays, to strike out the 12th section of article 4th, it was negative—

Ayes—Messrs. Acock, Anderson, Applegate, Bassett, Bevit, Bunch, Cannon, Davis, Finch, Fulkerson, Gentry, Gibbony, Griffin, Hunt, Jackson, of Howard, James, Jones, of F. Jones, of N., Marmaduke, Massey, McHenry, Neaves, Nickel, Porter, Shields, Simonds, Slack, Stewart, Tong, Wells, and Wilcoxson—31.

Noes—Messrs. Alexander, Branstetter, Broadhead, Brooking, Brown, Buford, Campbell, Coalter, Ewing, Farquhar, Forshey, Foster, Green, Hickman, Horine, Hunter, Hyatt, Jackson, of R., Jones, of S., Kincheloe, Leslie, Mitchell, Morrow, Pannell, Pipkin, Pitt, Polk, Simpson, Stone, Thomas, Ward, Wright, Young and Mr. President—34.

So the Auditor will hereafter be appointed by the Governor, as the present constitution provides.

An amendment was adopted vesting the county courts of the several counties with authority to cause elections for Sheriffs and Coroners, whenever those offices shall become vacant, and to make appointments to fill vacancies until an election shall take place. Officers so appointed or elected, to fill unexpired terms to be eligible for the next succeeding term.

On Monday, Mr. Shields, chairman of the committee on internal improvement, reported a substitute for the 7th article of the constitution. That internal improvements shall be forever encouraged by this State, and that all lands granted to this State for internal improvement, shall be strictly applied according to its grant, and that the 500,000 acres of land shall be placed under the control of the legislature.

Mr. James opposed the report, and gave notice that he should submit a counter report.

Various amendments were proposed in reference to the militia system, all of which were lost, and a clause inserted vesting the legislature with power to organize, govern and discipline the militia.

Tuesday, the morning session was consumed in offering various amendments to the different sections in the declaration of rights, none of which were adopted materially altering the present declaration.

We regret to see so prevalent a disposition to amend almost every section of the Constitution. The amendments called for by the people are few, and might be soon disposed of, and the session brought to a close. But so many amendments are offered and discussed, that as yet, literally nothing has been done—notwithstanding time enough has elapsed for the convention to have transacted the business called for by the people, and gone home.

FOREIGN NEWS.—The late Foreign News shows an alarming state of affairs in England. The New York Herald heads its synopsis of the news by the latest arrival as follows:

Our accounts in a commercial and financial point of view, are more important than they have been for the last twenty years. A terrible revolution has commenced in England, greater than that of 1825, and similar to that of 1837 in the United States. This revolution has been produced by the combined influence of that bad harvest all over England and Europe, a bad monetary system, and the unthinking inflation in railway speculations. All stocks, and every staple is going down—except the price of breadstuffs, which the impending famine enhances and improves. This terrible movement is just in its commencement. The first blow has been struck—and in Ireland, the agitator O'Connell is already using it for the purpose of opposition to the union. The English Government seems to be in a state of alarm, and Sir Robert Peel is calling cabinet after cabinet, to deliberate on the opening of the ports, and the best means to meet impending famine. Cotton is down—corn is up—and the excitement caused by the revolution is increasing every day. What the result may be, no one can tell—perhaps it is "the beginning of the end" of the financial and political superstructure of England and France.

A FARMER'S ADVICE.—Col. George Mason, of Virginia, made the following remarks in his will; the advice contained in them constitutes a valuable legacy to all young men:

I recommend to my sons, from my own experience in life, to prefer the happiness of independence and a private station to the trouble and vexations of public business, but if either their own inclinations, or the necessity of the times, should engage them in public affairs, I charge them, on a father's blessing, never to let the motives of private interest or ambition induce them to betray, nor the terrors of poverty and disgrace, or of death, deter them from asserting the liberty of their country, and endeavor to transmit to their posterity, those sacred rights to which themselves were born.

SEVERE.—The New York Star, in noticing the attempt to indict McKenzie, says: "We don't see why McKenzie should be indicted for taking a few old letters from the custom house, while another who stole \$200,000 from there, goes at large and circulates in fashionable society."

OREGON—THE UNION.—In a long article in the organ of the Administration at Washington, we find what may well be regarded as the foreshadowing of that part of the Message, which was delivered to Congress the first of the week, touching Oregon:

If we wish to settle the Oregon question peacefully, let us settle it seasonably; and to that end, let us show that we are in earnest about it, and united upon it. Protocols alone, though they should cover ream upon ream of paper, will not do this. We must do by law for our citizens in Oregon, at least as much as great Britain has done for her subjects there. We must, as we have said before, "recognize them, protect them, establish communication with them, and extend to them a participation of our own FREE REPUBLICAN GOVERNMENT." We must organize a government over the American citizens west of the Rocky Mountains, and thus protect them, and thus bind them to us. In addition to this, it is the dictate alike of a wise and of a peaceful spirit, to give to emigration to Oregon proper encouragement. An Indian agency there—a mail communication—a line of block house protecting and securing the Oregon route—additional dragoons, if necessary, to protect them from the Indians; all these measures, and other measures of protection, such as these, are indispensable, and should not be longer delayed. They have been delayed too long already. In one word, our diplomacy has already demonstrated that we are the rightful owners of that soil. Our legislation should now show that it believes what our diplomacy has all along asserted and proved. Let our legislation do this, in moderation, at once and firmly, and Oregon is ours.

Here is a paragraph touching Mexico: We have uniformly said that, under the relations which prevail between Mexico and ourselves, we would not be the first to make overtures to Mexico. But we never intended to say that we would not accept overtures that should be made to us. We would be willing, of course, to terminate the present uncertain relations between the two countries on the first fair and honorable opportunity, and to substitute a permanent arrangement of peace for a very undefined appearance of war. We have also said more than once, that if such an overture was not made by Mexico, and a negotiation which promised to terminate our present relations did not take place, it might become the constituted authorities of this country to change these relations into a more decided and unequivocal attitude.

SCHOOL AND SEMINARY LANDS.

The President laid before the Convention a communication from Falkland H. Martin, Superintendent of Common Schools, in relation to the common school and seminary fund, in reply to a resolution of inquiry by the Convention—with regard to the amount of money which has been received each year from the Bank of Missouri, by way of dividend, as interest upon the common school money belonging to the State; and also the amount received each year from the Bank of Missouri, by way of dividend, as interest upon the seminary fund. And also the amount each fund would have received at 8 and ten per cent per annum.

The report says:

The common school fund amounts to the sum of \$575,667 96.

The seminary fund amounts to the sum of \$100,000.

On these two funds, dividends of various dates and amounts have been declared, as is fully set forth in the following table of dividends on State school money and seminary fund. The interest on these funds have been computed from the date of investment up to the 1st of July, 1845, it being the date of the last dividend.

Table showing STATE SCHOOL MONEY dividends for Div'd No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 from July 1840 to July 1845.

Making an aggregate amt of \$90,317 67 And being an average each year of \$15,052 94

Table showing SEMINARY FUND dividends for Div'd No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 from July 1840 to July 1845.

Total, \$15,479 44 Making an average for each year of \$2,579 903

At 8 per cent. interest, from the date of investment to the 1st July, 1845, the aggregate of interest which would have accrued on the State school money, would have been \$269,991 85 cents—making an average dividend for each year of \$44,998 64. At 10 per cent. interest, on State school moneys, would have been \$336,667 78—making an average dividend for each year of \$56,111 29.

The Seminary Fund, at 8 per cent. interest from the dates of the different investments to the 1st July, 1845, would have amounted to the sum of \$47,226 90—making an average dividend for each year of \$7,781 15. At 10 per cent. interest the aggregate amount would have been \$58,942 70.

On the State school money, \$17,531 55 of the dividends has been re-invested, and now forms part of the principal.

The communication was referred to the committee on Education, and 2,000 copies ordered to be printed.—[Inquirer.]

GEORGIA.—The official returns of the late election for Governor exhibit the following vote:

Table showing election results for Crawford, McAllister, and Polk in 1845, with Whig gain.

GOOD, IF TRUE.—Mr. Nicholson, Polk's defeated candidate for Senator from Tennessee, thus speaks of Turney, the Senator elect—and we hope, speaks truly:

"We know of but one question on which Mr. Turney and the editor of the whig disagree—that is the bank question. They are together in being anti Polk men—they are together on the Texas question—they agree on the Oregon question—they harmonize on the Tariff—they are side by side in distribution.

"CAN THERE BE WAR?"—In answer to this question the New York Morning News (a Democratic journal) has an article which concludes as follows:

"We must not be understood as being of those non-resisting advocates of peace who would, under no possible circumstances, advocates of war. On the contrary, we admit that there might be evils worse than war. We would resist to the last drop of blood any wanton invasion of our national rights or national honor. But we cannot believe that in this age there is any danger of being called to such dire work. One thing is certain: the means of arriving at the truth, and the requirements of justice on every great question are now so abundant, that no civilized nation can be involved in war with another without the most awful criminality on the part of one or the other. Let England look well to this; we are sure America will do so. The retribution which the people of either country would visit upon the heads of the government for involving them in an unjust or causeless war, would be fearful in the extreme. Far distant may be the day when any such calamity shall fall upon the world!—This should be the earnest prayer of every lover of his race."

LOAFERS.—There is no telling how many loafers there are in a small place (like Fayette, for instance), until the weather becomes cold enough to drive them into stores, shops, or other places, where those who work keep a good fire. We suggest that they give all a share of their custom, both for their own and the convenience of those who stay at home.

MASSACHUSETTS ELECTION.—Returns have now been received from all the towns in the State except three. The result of the election for Governor is thus stated:

Table showing Massachusetts election results for Briggs, Davis, Sewall, Shaw, and Scattering.

Gov. Briggs fails of a re-election by 2,300 votes; and beats the locofoco candidate 14,112 votes. As the legislature is overwhelmingly whig, Gov. Briggs will of course be re-elected.

The Representatives elect stand thus—Whigs 172; Locofocos 51; Natives 4.

The case of the State vs. Casey, Stone and Neff, charged with taking up Mr. Light, without authority, and extorting money from him for his release, came up in our Circuit Court, yesterday, and a change of venue granted to the defendants. They are to be tried in Boone County, at a special term, on the 2d Monday in February.

The Republican and Reporter both failed to reach this place on Thursday last. This has been the case several times lately. Would it not be well for those papers to inquire into the matter?

GEORGIA.—Dr. Ambrose Baker has been nominated by the Whigs as their candidate for Congress, in place of Mr. Poe, resigned. The doctor was formerly our minister to Sardinia.

The Salem (Indiana) News states that the Rev. E. R. Ames, of the Indiana Methodist Conference, and Hon. John Law, of Vincennes, are spoken of as Locofoco candidates for United States Senator.

"The Gospel does what was never effected by any other system. It dethrones sin from the heart—it restores the impress of Deity upon the soul—it reconciles man with his make—it bears up its possessor under a weight of afflictions—it converts a dungeon into a sanctuary—makes martyrdom joyful—transforms death into a wearisome friend—silences the thunders of Mount Sinai—gives a title to heaven, and life and immortality are brought to light by the Gospel."

A BEAUTIFUL THOUGHT.

How few men seem to have formed a conception of the original dignity of their nature, or the exalted design of their creation. Regarding themselves only as a creature of time, endowed merely with animal passions and intellectual faculties, their projects, aims and expectations are circumscribed by the narrow outline of human life: They forget that instability and decay are written, as with a sunbeam, on all earthly objects—that this world, with all its pageantry and pomp, and power, is crumbling into dust—that this life is scarcely deserving of a single thought, excepting as it forms the introduction to another, and that he alone acts a prudent or rational part, who frames his plans with a direct reference to that future and endless state of being. Sin has so blinded the understanding, and debased the affections—that men never fail to invest some temporal good with fancied perfection, and idly imagine that the attainment of it would satisfy the desires and fill the capacities of the immortal spirit! How little do they know themselves! The soul is not of the earth, and they will strive in vain to chain it to the dust. Though its native strength has been impaired, and its purity tarnished, and its glory changed, it would not always be a prisoner here. Send it forth, if you will, to range through the material universe, and like the dove dismissed from the ark, it will return without finding a single place to rest—for it has no resting place but the bosom of God.

HEALTH.—Those who take an interest in the private habits of the Duke of Wellington, says, that to say that to his early rising, a hard bed, constant use of the cold bath, may be attributed the excellent health he enjoys. To a person who remarked, that his bed seemed too narrow for one to turn in replied that when one began to turn in led it was to turn out.